

Appln. of: Schneider  
Serial No.: 10/768,191  
Filed: February 2, 2004

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Currently Amended) A sports brace comprising an elastic woven or knitted fabric, which for a sport of the kind that is performed using the ~~arm or arm~~/hand can be secured to the applicable ~~arm or arm~~/wrist (2) of the person using it by means of a closure (4), wherein characterized in that the brace (3) includes a plurality of distributed weights (15), each comprising one housing (16) in which a plurality of freely movable solid particles (18) are located, the solid particles of each weight being movable within the respective housing to counteract an impacting force on the hand/arm.
2. (Currently Amended) The sports brace of claim 1, wherein characterized in that the brace (3) is embodied in two-ply form and has a plurality of striplike chambers (13) extending both parallel and transversely to the longitudinal axis (12) of the brace (3), in each of which chambers a plurality of weights (15) spaced apart from one another are disposed.
3. (Currently Amended) The sports brace of claim 2, wherein characterized in that in each of the striplike chambers (13), one striplike substrate (14) is disposed, to which the weights (15) spaced apart from one another are secured.
4. (Currently Amended) The sports brace of claim 3, wherein characterized in that the housings (16) of the weights (15) each have the form of a hemisphere and are joined by their flat side (17) to the corresponding striplike substrate (14).

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5. (Currently Amended) The sports brace of one of claim 1, wherein at least one  
of characterized in that the housings (16) of the weights or(15) and/or the striplike substrates  
(14) are made of plastic.

6. (Currently Amended) The sports brace of one of claim 1, wherein characterized  
in that the solid particles (18) of the weights (15) are at least one of metal, plastic or carbon.

7. (Currently Amended) The sports brace of one of claim 1, wherein characterized  
in that the solid particles (18) of the weights (15) each have a form that is generally  
approximated to the spherical shape.

8. (Currently Amended) The sports brace of one of claim 1, wherein characterized  
in that the respective housing (16) of each of the weights (15) is from 50% to 75% filled with  
solid particles(18).

9. (Currently Amended) The sports brace of one of claim 1, wherein characterized  
in that a hook-and-loop closure is provided as the closure (4) of the brace-(3).

10. (Currently Amended) The sports brace of one of claim 2, wherein at least one  
of characterized in that the housings (16) of the weights or(15) and/or the striplike substrates  
(14) are made of plastic.

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11. (Currently Amended) The sports brace of one of claim 3, wherein at least one  
of characterized in that the housings (16) of the weights or (15) and/or the striplike substrates  
(14) are made of plastic.

12. (Currently Amended) The sports brace of one of claim 4, characterized in that  
the housings (16) of the weights (15) and/or the striplike substrates (14) are of plastic.

13. (Currently Amended) The sports brace of one of claim 2, wherein characterized  
in that the solid particles (18) of the weights (15) are at least one of metal, plastic or carbon.

14. (Currently Amended) The sports brace of one of claim 3, wherein characterized  
in that the solid particles (18) of the weights (15) are at least one of metal, plastic or carbon.

15. (Currently Amended) The sports brace of one of claim 4, wherein characterized  
in that the solid particles (18) of the weights (15) are at least one of metal, plastic or carbon.

16. (Currently Amended) The sports brace of one of claim 5, wherein characterized  
in that the solid particles (18) of the weights (15) are at least one of metal, plastic or carbon.

17. (Currently Amended) The sports brace of one of claim 2, wherein characterized  
in that the solid particles (18) of the weights (15) each have a form that is generally  
approximated to the spherical shape.

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18. (Currently Amended) The sports brace of one of claim 3, wherein characterized  
~~in that~~ the solid particles (18) of the weights (15) each have a form that is  
generally approximated to the spherical shape.

19. (Currently Amended) The sports brace of one of claim 4, wherein characterized  
~~in that~~ the solid particles (18) of the weights (15) each have a form that is  
generally approximated to the spherical shape.

20. (Currently Amended) The sports brace of one of claim 5, wherein characterized  
~~in that~~ the solid particles (18) of the weights (15) each have a form that is generally  
approximated to the spherical shape.